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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, March 15, 1990 -- Carloadings originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended March 10 totaled 337,726, up 3.2 percent from the comparable week of 1989 but 0.9 percent below the preceding week of 1990, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were up 3.5 percent in the West and 2.9 percent in the East, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1989 week, coal loadings rose by 9,524 cars (8.0 percent), and loadings of crushed stone, sand and gravel were up 2,394 cars (23.5 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first 10 weeks of 1990 totaled 3,329,113, up 1.1 percent from the comparable period a year ago.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- which is not included in the carloadings -- totaled 120,285 trailers and/or containers for the week ended March 10, up 8.2 percent from the comparable week of 1989.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 10 weeks of 1990 was 1,159,610 trailers and/or containers, 4.6 percent above the comparable 1989 total.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended March 10 totaled 19.6 billion, up 3.7 percent from the comparable week of 1989. Cumulative volume for the first 10 weeks of 1990 was an estimated 193.1 billion ton-miles, up 1.6 percent from the comparable period of last year.

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 10, 1990

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING MARCH 10, 1990	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1989	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	30,521	31,116	-1.9 %	32,387	-5.8 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	1,587	1,774	-10.5	1,697	-6.5
Metallic Ores	15,193	15,115	.5	16,406	-7.4
Coal	129,049	119,525	8.0	127,872	.9
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	12,572	10,178	23.5	11,341	10.9
Nonmetallic Minerals	9,097	8,695	4.6	9,412	-3.3
Grain Mill Products	9,965	10,252	-2.8	10,119	-1.5
Food & Kindred Products	8,876	8,592	3.3	9,013	-1.5
Primary Forest Products	10,420	9,901	5.2	10,630	-2.0
Lumber & Wood Products	6,378	6,949	-8.2	7,488	-14.8
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	10,681	10,309	3.6	10,905	-2.1
Chemicals	28,567	27,934	2.3	29,706	-3.8
Petroleum Products	5,098	5,180	-1.6	4,666	9.3
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	10,252	9,410	8.9	9,773	4.9
Coke	5,697	5,726	-.5	5,223	9.1
Metals & Products	9,340	9,767	-4.4	10,161	-8.1
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	19,281	21,026	-8.3	19,581	-1.5
Waste & Scrap Materials	8,082	9,009	-10.3	8,351	-3.2
All Other Carloads	7,070	6,799	4.0	6,094	16.0
Total	337,726	327,257	3.2 %	340,825	-.9 %

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING MARCH 10, 1990 1990	1989	CHANGE	CUMULATIVE: 10 WEEKS ENDING MARCH 10, 1990 1990	1989	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	337,726	327,257	3.2 %	3,329,113	3,292,248	1.1 %
Intermodal Traffic Originated						
Trailers	68,327	66,431	2.9	650,219	641,734	1.3
Containers	51,958	44,749	16.1	509,391	466,909	9.1
Total	120,285	111,180	8.2	1,159,610	1,108,643	4.6
Estimated Ton-Miles Class I Railroads (Billions)	19.6	18.9	3.7 %	193.1	190.1	1.6 %